

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 INT-08

OIC-04 DRC-01 /169 W

----- 041790

R 051450Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2842

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VALETTA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6417

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: CSCE: POSSIBLE DISCUSSION OF OIL CRISIS

REF: BONN 18383 NOTAL

1. BRANT-KREISKY-PALME INITIATIVE (REFTEL) HAS BEEN

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SUBJECT OF CORRIDOR SPECULATION AT CSCE SINCE LE MONDE

OF DEC 4 REPORTED THEIR DECISION TO MAKE A "COMMON DEMARCHE" IN FAVOR OF CSCE DISCUSSION OF PRESENT OIL CRISIS.

2. NONE OF THE DELEGATIONS CONCERNED HAS INDICATED THEIR INTENTIONS IN THIS REGARD, EITHER FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY, AND FRG DEL HAS TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT THEY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT IT AND HAVE SOUGHT INSTRUCTIONS.

3. NEVERTHELESS, THIS SUBJECT MAY COME UP ON DEC 7, WHEN COMMITTEE II (ECONOMIC COOPERATION) WILL DISCUSS WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN ON CONTRIBUTIONS OF NON-PARTICIPATING MEDITERRANEAN STATES. SEVERAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE ALLUDED TO OIL PROBLEM AND IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPE.

4. FRG TABLED ENERGY PROPOSAL IN CSCE INDUSTRIAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCTOBER 26 CALLING, INTER ALIA, FOR JOINT EXPLOITATION OF OIL RESOURCES. HOWEVER, WE DOUBT THAT AN INITIATIVE FOR DISCUSSION OF MIDDLE EAST OIL PROBLEM HERE WOULD GET VERY FAR AT THE PRESENT TIME. OF COURSE, SEVERAL CSCE PARTICIPANTS (SPAIN, MALTA, YUGOSLAVIA) ARE LOOKING FOR OPENINGS TO ADVANCE THEIR ARGUMENTS FOR ENLARGED ARAB PARTICIPATION AT CSCE (WHICH DISCUSSION OF OIL PROBLEM WOULD PRESUMABLY ENTAIL), AND SOME WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES MIGHT FAVOR SUCH A GESTURE TOWARD THE ARABS. BUT SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES APPEAR TO BE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE DIVISIVE EFFECTS DISCUSSION OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION COULD HAVE ON CSCE. THEY WOULD NATURALLY SIDE WITH ARABS IN ANY SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE, BUT CAN BE COUNTED ON TO RAISE VIRTUALLY INSURMOUNTABLE PROCEDURAL OBSTACLES, AND TO WORK HARD IN CORRIDORS TO PREVENT SUCH A SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION FROM TAKING PLACE. BASSIN

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